



**Queensland  
Government**

**PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET ONLY**

**NO DOCUMENTED CONSENT REQUIRED**

## 1. What is a Cystogram?

A Cystogram is an x-ray procedure of the bladder. It will look at the bladder's position and its shape.

Contrast (once called x-ray dye) is put into your bladder. Contrast allows your bladder to be seen more clearly on the x-ray pictures.

A Micturating Cystourethrogram (MCU) may be done as an extra step to the Cystogram procedure. An MCU is an x-ray procedure of the bladder and the urethra (tube that drains urine from the bladder). The X-ray pictures are done while the person passes urine.

## 2. Will there be any discomfort, is any anaesthetic needed?

You may feel mild discomfort when the catheter is inserted. You may feel pressure and fullness in your bladder when the Contrast is injected. No anaesthetic is required for this procedure.

## 3. Preparation for the procedure

The medical imaging department will give you instructions on how to prepare for your procedure.

- Please tell the staff if you are or suspect you might be pregnant.
- Please tell staff if you have a urinary tract infection. The infection could become worse if the procedure is done.

## 4. During the procedure

A plain x-ray picture of your bladder will be taken. A lubricated catheter is gently inserted through your urethra and into your bladder.

A small balloon on the end of the catheter may be inflated to hold the catheter in place during the procedure. Contrast is injected through the catheter to fill your bladder.

A series of x-ray pictures are taken during the filling and the emptying of your bladder.

At the end of the procedure the balloon is deflated and the catheter is removed.

If an MCU procedure is requested, you will be asked to urinate while x-ray pictures are taken.

## 5. What are the risks of this specific procedure?

The risks and complications with this procedure can include but are not limited to the following.

### Common risks and complications include:

- Minor pain, bruising and/or bleeding at the insertion site from the catheter. This should resolve on its own.

### Less common risks and complications include:

- Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Allergic reaction to the Contrast. This could result in a rash, hives, itching, nausea, fainting or shortness of breath. Medication may be given to relieve this.
- Perforation of the urethra. This may require surgery.
- The procedure may not be possible due to medical and/or technical reasons.

### Rare risks and complications include:

- An increased lifetime cancer risk due to the exposure to x-rays.
- Death as a result of this procedure is very rare.

## 6. What are the safety issues when you leave the hospital?

Go to your nearest Emergency Department or GP if you become unwell.

### Notes to talk to my doctor/ health practitioner about:

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